



**Sean Rogan**  
Executive Director

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
of the County of Los Angeles**

2 Coral Circle • Monterey Park, CA 91755  
323.890.7001 • TTY: 323.838.7449 • [www.lacdc.org](http://www.lacdc.org)



**Gloria Molina  
Mark Ridley-Thomas  
Zev Yaroslavsky  
Don Knabe  
Michael D. Antonovich**  
Commissioners

November 20, 2012

The Honorable Board of Commissioners  
Community Development Commission  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Commissioners:

**ADOPTED**

Community Development Commission

1-D November 20, 2012

*Sachi A. Hamai*  
**SACHI A. HAMAI**  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**APPROVAL OF FUNDS FOR RENOVATIONS OF DIDI HIRSCH MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES'  
GLENDALE CENTER  
(DISTRICT 5) (3 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

This letter recommends the transfer of up to \$1,188,270 in County General Funds (CGF), specifically Homeless Service Center Funds (HSCF) allocated to the Fifth Supervisorial District, for renovations to the Glendale outpatient mental health clinic operated by Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services, located at 1540 East Colorado Street in Glendale.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:**

1. Acting as a responsible agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), certify that the Community Development Commission has considered the attached determination, which was prepared by the City of Glendale as lead agency; and find that the project will not cause a significant effect on the environment.
2. Authorize the Executive Director or his designee to execute all required documents necessary to accept and incorporate into the Commission's approved Fiscal Year 2012-2013 budget up to \$1,188,270 in HSCF allocated to the Fifth Supervisorial District.
3. Authorize the Executive Director or his designee to execute, amend and, if necessary, terminate a Grant Agreement and any related documents necessary to transfer up to \$1,080,245 in HSCF to Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services for costs related to the renovation of its Glendale Center.
4. Authorize the Executive Director to retain up to \$108,025 (10%) in administrative funds for

Commission oversight of this project.

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The \$1,080,245 in HSCF will allow Didi Hirsch to renovate the Glendale clinic to improve its earthquake safety, include more clinical treatment space, and create a new Wellness Center. The renovation will benefit community residents by expanding the capacity of Didi Hirsch to provide needed mental health services in Glendale and surrounding areas.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The proposed actions will be funded with a portion of CGF known as HSCF. Approved by the Board of Supervisors on April 4, 2006 as part of the Homeless Prevention Initiative, these funds are used for programs and costs associated with services, operations, and capital projects for individuals and families who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness. A total of \$1,425,000 per year is allocated to each Supervisorial District to fund such programs.

The Fifth District has allocated \$1,188,270 for this project: \$1,080,245 to be granted to Didi Hirsch and \$108,025 (10%) in administrative funds for the Commission. These funds will be incorporated into the Commission's approved Fiscal Year 2012-2013 budget as needed.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The Fifth District has allocated HSCF for the renovation of the Didi Hirsch Glendale Center to create a new Wellness Center, to improve the building's safety, expand its capacity to provide clinical services, and provide more privacy for clients. The purpose of the renovation is to better respond to the needs of clients with serious mental illness, in particular those who are homeless, as well as to ensure the safety of clients and staff in the event of an earthquake.

Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services is a nonprofit organization that has been providing mental health support, substance abuse treatment, and suicide prevention to adults, children, and families for over seventy years. Didi Hirsch operates ten locations throughout Los Angeles County and serves over 70,000 individuals each year. A variety of services are offered by the organization, including individual and group therapy, case management, psychiatric medication management, employment services, and crisis residential treatment.

The Didi Hirsch Glendale Center opened in May 2011, after the existing Glendale Community clinic was threatened with closure. Didi Hirsch stepped in to ensure the continued availability of mental health services in the community. Didi Hirsch wishes to transform the facility into a "one-stop shop" for health and wellness for homeless and at-risk individuals and families in Glendale and surrounding communities. The proposed renovations will optimize building functionality, safety, and program effectiveness.

The cornerstone of the renovation is the creation of a new Wellness Center which will provide open common space for clients to socialize, meet with peer counselors, and participate in support groups, computer training, job readiness activities, life skills classes, and housing searches guided by a housing specialist. The creation of the Wellness Center will involve converting space currently occupied with staff cubicles into an open space with computers, tables, chairs, surrounded by a kitchen, private rooms for groups and individual counseling sessions, and a shower area for clients who may be homeless.

**ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

This project has been determined ministerial and exempt from the requirements of CEQA by the City of Glendale in accordance with State CEQA Guidelines Section 15268. The Commission's consideration of this determination satisfies the requirements of CEQA.

**IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Approval of these actions will increase the availability of mental health services for homeless individuals in Glendale and surrounding communities.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean Rogan", followed by a horizontal line.

SEAN ROGAN  
Executive Director

SR:kk

Enclosures



CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
Planning Division

633 East Broadway, Room 103  
Glendale, California 91206-4386  
(818) 548-2140 (818) 548-2144  
(818) 548-2115 Fax (818) 240-0392  
[www.ci.glendale.ca.us](http://www.ci.glendale.ca.us)

October 24, 2012

Dr. Kita Curry  
President/CEO  
Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services  
4760 S. Sepulveda Boulevard  
Culver City, CA 90230

**Re: CEQA Environmental Review Determination  
Didi Hirsch Glendale Center  
1540 E. Colorado St., Glendale, CA 91205**

Dear Dr. Curry:

The proposed interior renovations to the building located at the address referenced above are not considered a project under CEQA (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378). As a result, no environmental review is necessary.

If you have any questions regarding this determination please, contact me at (818) 937-8156.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Erik Krause".

Erik Krause  
Senior Planner

EK:ek